

## SUMMARY

HA-1270

Moores-Crouse House  
Prospect Mill Road  
Bel Air, Maryland 21014

The Moores-Crouse House was built sometime after 1903 when John Moores purchased an unimproved lot at Doxen's Corners. The nicely-carved porch brackets give it some distinction it otherwise would lack. The house form is one used from the 18th through the 20th centuries and even with several additions, it is still basically intact.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Moore-Crouse House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

southwest corner of intersection of Thomas Run Rd. and Prospect Mill Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air,

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland 21014

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

COUNTY

Harford

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Ralph V. &amp; June B. Crouse

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

611 Evergreen Road

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air,

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
MD 21014**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #: 660

Folio #: 143

STREET &amp; NUMBER

40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air,

STATE  
Maryland 21014**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

Located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Thomas Run and Prospect Mill Roads, this is one of those ageless el-shaped frame houses that could have been built anytime from the second quarter of the 19th century until the second quarter of the 20th century. The single distinguishing feature of this two-story, gable-roofed house is its hip-roofed porch with carved brackets that are particularly delicate. Wrapping around the north and east sides, its foundation is covered by latticework and it has a new iron railing. Three bays wide and one room deep, the west end of the front or north section is flush with the west side of the two bay by one room rear wing. At the inside juncture of the el is a one-story, one-room, shed-roofed addition. The windows have 2/2 sash and narrow beaded trim. The cornice is plain, and there are two brick chimneys.

The principal facade of the north section has a central entrance flanked by a window on both sides, and two windows in the second story. Both ends have one window in each story with a projecting entrance in the first story south bay of the east end. Only one window in the second story west bay is visible on the south side.

The el has one story additions on all three sides and bears evidence of the breaking up of the house into apartments. On the east is a part lattice-part frame wing; on the south end is a gable-roof structure inside a shed-roofed porch, with a door in the second story, on the west is the shed-roofed wing (mentioned previously), leaving one window in the first story south bay.

Behind the house is a curious one-story, board and batten structure with a gable roof and a shed-roofed addition.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house appears to have been built sometime after 1903, when John Moores purchased an 8 acre "unimproved lot" at Doxen's Corners for \$143.50 in the settlement of Mary E. Farnandis' estate.<sup>1</sup> Mary E. Farnandis had huge land holdings in Harford and Baltimore Counties and Baltimore City; this particular parcel adjoined the land of John Moores, who already owned more than 300 acres in the area.

John Moores' great-great-grandfather, James Moores (1726-1791), first purchased part of the tract "South Hampton" in 1773 (originally patented to Henry Wriothsley in 1699). He was a tanner and used the pre-existing sawmill for cutting and removing the bark from oak trees to use in vats for tanning leather. The property remained in the Moores family until in 1911 when John Moores willed part of his 390 acre estate to his daughter, Mary L. Moores, and part-including this particular plot at Doxen's Corners-to his son, George G. Moores.<sup>2</sup> In 1914, George G. Moores sold this 8 acre lot to James Thomson (JAR 142/458).<sup>3</sup>

## Footnotes

<sup>1</sup> WSF 109/469

<sup>2</sup> Will Records HTB 14/274

<sup>3</sup> JAR 142/458

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Land, Will, and Equity Records of Harford County; 1858 Jennings and Herrick Map; 1878 Martenet's Map

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Natalie Shivers, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Historic District Commission

DATE

May, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

45 S. Main St.

TELEPHONE

301-879-2000 ext. 207

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air,

STATE

MD 21014

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

## TITLE SEARCH

HA -1270

Moore-Crouse house  
Ralph V. and June B. Crouse

	660/143	9/25/64	Grantor: Robert L. Stocksedale, Trustee (Northeast Bohemian Savings & Loan Assoc. vs. Buford H. & Jean Blevins' Equity Docket Liber 17, Folio 1)
			Grantee: Ralph V. and June B. Crouse
			Sum: \$11,500.
			Acreage: 0.49 acres
GRG	560/288	7/23/60	Grantor: Delmas J. Kilby
			Grantee: Buford H. and Jean Blevins
			Acreage: 0.49 acres
GRG	385/356	11/19/52	Grantor: Bertie S. Baines
			Grantee: Delmas J. and Selma E. Kilby
			Acreage: 16 acres at or near Doxen's Corner
GRG	362/394	9/12/51	Grantor: Stella M. Brackins
			Grantee: Bertie S. Baines
			Acreage: 18 acres
SWC	237/11	3/23/35	Grantor: James & Sophia T. Thomson
			Grantee: Stella M. Brackins
			Acreage: 18 acres at or near Doxen's Corner
SWC	230/101	3/17/34	Grantor: Anna E. Schillinger
			Grantee: James & Sophia T. Thomson
			Acreage: 18 acres (2 parcels)
		3/10/34	Grantor: Benjamin F. Johnson and wife
			Grantee: Anna E. Schillinger
SWC	223/139	4/17/32	Grantor: James & Sophie Thomson, Irwin E. & Elizabeth Bowers
			Grantee: Benjamin F. & Della A. Johnson
			Acreage: 18 acres (2 parcels): 9 acres and <u>8 acres,</u> <u>3 roads, and 35 square perches</u>
JAR	142/458	2/2/14	Grantor: George G. Moores
			Grantee: James Thomson
			Acreage: 8 acres, 3 roads, 35 square perches

Will Records HTB 14/274

John Moores left part of home farm to son, George G. Moores

TITLE SEARCH

HA-1270

Continued

WSF 109/469 10/13/03

Grantor: Thomas H. Robinson, Trustee  
Grantee: John Moores  
Sum: \$143.50  
Acreage: 8 acres, 3 roads, 35 square perches situated  
at "Doxen's Corners" part of "Big Woods" tract

Equity Records WSF 54/1  
& WSF 81/33 7/3/1899

George G. Farnandis vs. James Farnandis' division of  
property belonging to Mary E. Farnandis

Be An  
VSGS Quadrangle Map  
HN-1270







Moores-Crouse house  
Bel Air, Md. 21014  
N. Shivers  
February, 1979  
Northwest

HD-1270



Moores-Crouse House  
Bel Air, MD 21014  
Natalie Shivers  
February, 1979  
Southeast

HA-1270